



# Y-REDS

## EXPOSED - TONY LEON!

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The Young Communist League is the youth-wing of the SACP. The League was formed in 1923, and was openly opposed to the participation of young at World War 1. The League was banned in 1953, together with the SACP. The YCL was re-launched in 2003, 50 years after the Suppression of Communism Act.

Membership to the League is open to youth between 14 and 35.

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*The views expressed herein are not necessarily those of the YCL or Y-REDS.*

Tony Leon have been exposed in an Internet Report by Wayne Madsen that he was in the past closely related to Jack Abramshoff, a long time intelligence asset for South Africa's apartheid era security services.

The report also implicates Russel Crystal, a chief advisor of Leon's party, the Democratic Alliance, was also close to Abramshoff and was involved in lobbying US Congressmen not to support the anti-Apartheid movement.

Both Leon and Crystal are reported to have also been involved with and where

recruited by Craig Williamson, the self-confessed Apartheid spook who was also involved in the assassination of Ruth First, former National Secretary of the YCL and wife to Joe Slovo.

The YCLSA has earlier in the week called on for the National Prosecutions Authority to extend its investigations on Apartheid era crimes to include an investigation into the past involvement of both Leon and Crystal.

Leon is also reported to have been bankrolled in his student election campaigns at Wits University. Leon later was part

of the Student Representative Council at Wits.

The report also alleges that Abramshoff financed and arranged Leon's yearlong visit to the United States by Jack Abramshoff.

In a letter from Leon's lawyers, he denies some of the allegations contained in the Madsen report. This does not obviously augur well given that the DA, and Leon in particular, have projected themselves as having been anti-Apartheid for quite some time.

Such reports are damning to the credibility of the

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### **'We will not move' - residents**



"THIS IS WHAT THE APARTHEID government did to the people of Sophiatown, now our own government is forcing us out" said a school child in a march organised by the YCL and COSAS at Khutsong.

The youth said that they will not write their examinations if they have anything to do with North West.

Although regarded as a strong statement, the youth in Merafong are much more determined.

The YCL National Committee has come out in support of the people of Moutse (Mpumalanga), Matatiele (KwaZulu Natal), Merafong (Gauteng) in their struggle to be heard about where they want to be located and how they want

service delivery to be improved and how they want to take an effective part in local government.

The YCL National Committee said it will use its elections programme to build links and local actions with youth in the affected communities.

The statement said that lack of service delivery and extensive

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### **GAUTRAIN: Mbazima's posh toy**

ALTHOUGH THE construction of the rail and the assembly of the coach is proceeding, the YCL has joined the chorus of organisations that have voiced their concerns against this project.

The YCL statement said that the project is nothing but a part of a collection of toys for some in the Gauteng government, and that it will not

meet the alleged broad impact.

Although the Gauteng Provincial Government is at pains to justify that the project cost will not exceed the targetted R20 billion, media reports and experts say that the amount is too low and will definately increase.

The YCL said that it is of the view that the R20 billion

Gautrain Project should be diverted towards a more comprehensive, mass-oriented transport system that will be cheaper and benefit more people in and around Gauteng.

It said that this transport system should include an effective bus transportation system and will be an

*(continued on page 3)*



# T H E

## Bottomline

NO COUNTRY IN THE WORLD is as crazy as South Africa is about Matric Results. It is our boerewors and pap. Our hype with Matric results is based on the Apartheid education superstructure.

A young man in rural KwaZulu Natal hanged himself and on his death note he indicated that he could not withstand the embarrassment of facing his pals after failing Matric twice. This young man felt that he has failed his family and thus cannot continue to live.

Millions of untold stories of young people who go through depression, stress, suicidal thoughts, sleepless nights languish precisely because of the social and academic pressures put on these teenager.

Passing or failing Matric results means educated or uneducated. It means the end of a bright future or the beginning of a better life. Millions of youth strolls the morning cold because they need to know if they have passed or failed. Why is this the case?

Our education system thus far has only one exit point, Matric. There is a need for diversification of the entry-exit points of the different education levels. We need to promote the vocational and technical education institutions represented by the Further Education and Training stream, especially in line with our socio-economic and developmental goals.

This will help young people to have a choice of exit points.

We need to intensify skills training in the form of training of artisans and apprentice.

The Education Alliance, comprising of SADTU, COSAS, SASCO, ANCYL, SASPU, SUCA YCL and YCS, had a meeting with the Minister of Education to discuss the problems in education and share our perspectives on Education Transformation. The main issues that were to be discussed included our experiences as the Education Alliance during the school reopening process this year, and an extensive reflection on last year's Matric Results which we believe did not meet the set goals and objectives.

# Boerewors and Matric Results

We further intended to use the meeting to discuss and prepare for the university reopening period this year so as to avert any form of exclusions, and thus, ultimately avoid protests, which have marred on an annual basis these learning institutions. We were of course going into the meeting in positive spirits and hoped that we will collectively emerge with a clear programme of action for our education system.

The Education Alliance was formed as an initiative of progressive youth, students and trade-union directly dealing with issues confronting our constituencies on a daily basis. For the past three years the Education Alliance has positively engaged with the Ministry of Education and its Department, spoke to stakeholders on institutions of learning and committed itself to restoring the culture of learning and teaching without fail, fear and favour.

The Education Alliance has mainly become an embodiment of progressive thinking and positive approach committed to the reconstruction and development of education in line with the historical ANC policy.

We draw our inspiration from those who spearheaded the launch and administration of the Solomon Mahlangu Freedom College (SOMAFSCO), those who drafted Ready to Govern, those who walked the length and breadth of the country drawing the programme called the Freedom Charter and the millions of South Africans whose hopes are of an equitable, non-racial, non-sexist and democratic education system. Combined, the education alliance represents a membership of more than a million, drawn from various sections of society, irrespective of their race, colour, creed, culture or religion.

Unfortunately the meeting with the Minister of Education was met with a different fate and was unable to engage on the problems confronting education currently, and was further unable to develop a collective effort to ensure that we, together with government, as organisations in the forefront and coal-face of education transformation, avoid an eminent crisis. It was caught up into attitudes of past engagements on education, and could not bear any fruits. Matters of protocol halted the meeting and bureaucratic managements rather than engage and produce positive results. An unfortunate end fate any self-respecting comrade can regret. We shall await its reconvention and hope it will succeed.

In the meantime, we have continued to identify the major problem of our education system as that of inconsistency and failing to meet our developmental goals. The past 12 years education transformation trajectory has merely dented the backward Apartheid education

superstructure, and continues to be disfigured by exclusions, riots, racism, increased failure rates and poor quality curriculum output.

Part of the major problems includes the fact that the ANC Education policy for transformation have not been consistently engaged into matters of education transformation, and that Minister after Minister hopes to outshine one another with the hope of being the best at the disadvantage of learners and society as a whole.

The ANC approach towards education is epitomised by a statement issued on the occasion of the reopening of the Solomon Mahlangu Freedom College, made by the then NEC member and head of the Department of Education, Henry Makgoti, who said that:

"where academic studies and vocational training and labour would be equally respected - a counter to Bantu Education - where children would get the best possible tuition, be free to learn the culture of their own people and subsequently have the opportunity to take up scholarships in universities and colleges in different parts of the world ... Finally, they would be practically and intellectually equipped to make a contribution in the present phase of the struggle in which they are eager to participate ... and to make their rightful place as citizens in a free and democratic South Africa of the future.

The theme for the Education Alliance towards our meeting with the Minister of Education was whether "our education is set to meet our developmental goals?" We are asking this question precisely because of the pressing economic and social needs that mainly relies on what our education system produces at the end of each year. We are further asking the question given the pressure asserted on the education system to produce skills for jobs. The other critical question is whether our obsession with Matric results, more than any other country in the world, should not be looked at as part of the Apartheid education superstructure. Is our education system ensuring that young people ultimately "make their rightful place as citizens in a free and democratic South Africa" of the current.

Our country's developmental goals are enshrined in the Growth and Development Summit Agreement.

The average age of an apprentice is said to be at 55, whilst there is less than 5000 artisans being trained currently, and mainly by the State Owned Enterprises or the private sector. The number of engineers with a degree from Technikon and Universities have significantly declined, although these are now in the increase, since 1996.

There are a lot of factors that influence the increase or decrease of qualified engineers and technicians.

Some of those includes the hype over Learnerships. Learnerships have failed the youth of the country in that:

- They have not properly equipped the entrants with skills to be able to enter the job market, mainly as a result of the skewed implementation by the private sector;
- Most learners have not been able to enter the job market due to the high unemployment rate, but mainly due to the first reason above;
- Learners have hopped from one learnership to another as a means to earn an income;
- Companies have created learnerships as a matter of compliance and claiming part of their skills levy other than as creating skills; and
- Companies have seen learnerships as a cheap labour, and thus end up not absorbing new entrants into the labour market.

Our contention is that our education system needs to be structures in such a way that it meets these developmental goals. With 17% of the total population of matriculants having passed their Matric with a university endorsement, are we able to do so? More so most of these 17% young people are not guaranteed entry into university because of the 'point system' that universities apply, and worse off, with universities already trying to reduce the number of entrants due to a threatened decrease in government subsidies.

What happens to the 83% who either failed their Matric or merely got a pass? Government policy hinders these from repeating or improving their results twice. Are they going to loafer and languish in the streets, hopefully to join the informal economy in all its evil (crime, prostitution etc) and good (hawking etc). The delaying FETC does more harm than good.

Our government is also party to the Millenium Developmental Goals under the auspices of the United Nations. These includes:

- Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
- Achieve universal primary education
- Promote gender equality and empower women
- 4. Reduce child mortality
- 5. Improve maternal health
- 6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
- 7. Ensure environmental sustainability
- 8. Develop a global partnership for development

Our education system is better placed to ensure that we meet this goals as it cuts across most of them. The Education Alliance, of which the YCL is a component part, will never rest until cadres of the ANC in all respect of life and work com-



Forward to the Red Youth Month

# Getting the Youth Vote for the ANC

The YCL has declared February 2006 as the Red Youth Month to mobilise young people to turn out in massive numbers to vote for the ANC in the 1 March local government elections.

The voice of every young person counts and must be heard and recognised in the elections.

As young people, we have clear needs and interests from local government.

We want effective provision of libraries, sports grounds, good clinics, healthy water, electricity, sanitation, recreation and other basic services where we live.

We want a caring government, which listens to us and acts in our interests.

There are just far too many municipalities not delivering services to local communities due to incapacity, corruption, lack of accountability and disregard for basic needs and views of local communities.

Local government corruption must be exposed and acted against.

## We will not Move...

*from page 1*

provincialism has sparked the crises in the three areas.

"If service delivery was not a national problem, the people in these affected areas were going to move without any problems.

"There are generally problems related to service delivery and these should not be confined to the cross-border municipalities.

"The crises in the municipalities

Poor service delivery must be challenged. Unaccountable councillors must be replaced. That is why 66% of the candidates are new.

As the YCL we also believe in the participation and representation of women in leadership roles, and thus, with no doubt we believe that 50% women are a huge factor for us to go all out and mobilise for the ANC.

As part of the Red Youth Month, we call on young people to participate in the YCL convened Young People's Forums.

YCL branches will be taking part in the following activities:

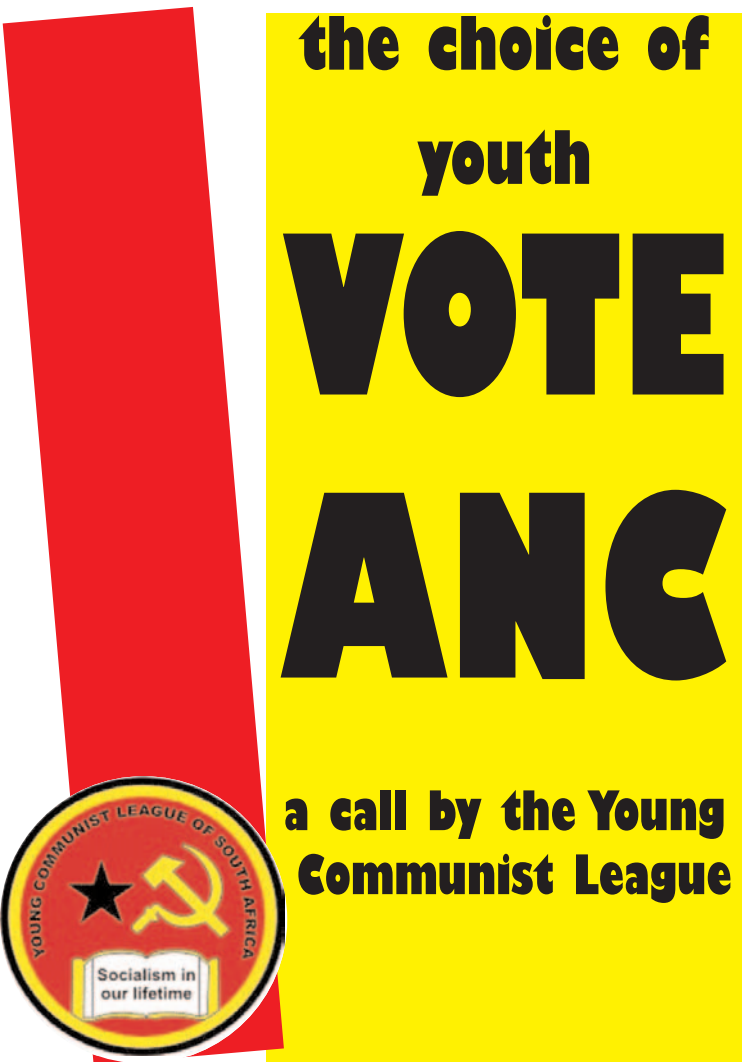
-Door to Door to explain the ANC Manifesto, understand the basic problems that confronts each of the visited households and see if these can be resolved.

-Hold a *Youth Rock da Vote Party* in three provinces, mixing politics with pleasure. Check your local YCL branch for details.  
*(See also back page)*

have also exposed a situation wherein the Minister of Provincial and Local Government acts with arrogance for arrogance sake towards the people of the affected areas, without advancing clear reasons on why they should fail in this or that province.

"We believe that the people and their interests should prevail over and above those of the Minister, especially given the rational nature of such interests."

"We further call on the ANC to act on its commitment to listen to the people" the statement further said.



## GAUTRAIN must halt...

*from page 1*

improvement of both the national and regional road system, an affordable, safe and reliable transport system that will benefit the economy more to a far larger scale than Gautrain.

Although millions of poor South Africans go on in frustration because of the poor public and private transport system, we find it unacceptable that the Gauteng and National government chose to focus on a transport for the elite.

The YCL is further disappointed that most of the production phase of the train and the rail will take

place in Germany and France, or will rely on importation of skills from abroad, which creates doubts whether this will meet the intended job-creation and skills development targets.

The YCL called on government to scrap the Gautrain project and introduce a broad impact transport system.

This, the YCL argues, will help in the reduction of road accidents (which increase on an average 15% per annum), reduce the cost of transport and make it much more accessible than it is currently.

Through this, it is estimated that close to 80% of the current GAUTRAIN budget can be saved and diverted to education, skills development and jobs.

(Continued from page 1)

## EXPOSED: TONY LEON

Democratic Alliance and those of Leon, the leader of the official opposition.

The report also comes out in the light of the Local Government Elections here at home, which Leon's spokesperson made reference to, alleging that the YCLSA and the ANC (Onica Mashego Branch) wants to use the report for that purposes.

The YCL called for an investigation on Leon and Crystal, with the view that such an investigation will be able to uncover If Leon was involved in the Apartheid era dirty tricks of sabotaging the African National Congress as agent, passively or actively.

"We need to also know if Leon was involved in any operation either through planning or execution of such plan that led to the killing of innocent people in the course of defending Apartheid.

"We challenge Leon to explain why as an active pro-Apartheid activist, together with Russel, they did not approach the Truth and Reconciliation Commission to confess their role and further apply for Amnesty" the statement said.

Crystal refused to be drawn into the saga when interviewed by the Mail and Guardian.

For a full report go to <http://www.waynemadsenreport.com/>.

WE REITERATE OUR congratulation to those who passed their matric examinations last year and wish them luck in their future endeavours.

We are however worried over the fact that only 17% of the more than 500 000 matriculants achieved a university entrance.

We are further worried over the fact that our

country is obsessed with the outcomes of Matric results, an aura created by the Apartheid education system.

We challenge the fact that Matric results are regarded as the alpha and omega of the education system, which puts unnecessary pressure on youth who even goes to the extent of committing sui-

cide because they failed their examination.

We will engage the Ministry of Education on the introduction of diverse exit points, which will include a General Education and Training Certificate and the Further Education and Training Certificates, which should not be based on competition but on outcomes.

We call on schools and FET institutions to admit those learners who failed their matric so as their chances are broadened.

We find it disturbing that some institutions of higher learning disregard the University Exemption awarded at a school level through their own point systems.

We call on for a stan-

dard access points from universities, as these are also used to exclude students.

We reiterate our demand for free education, and are disappointed that government has moved slow and failed in some provinces in introducing the 20% school fees exemption.

# CONDEMNATION OF THE ARREST OF THE SWAZILAND 15 AND FURTHER ACTION TO BE TAKEN AGAINST KING MSWATI.

a statement of the ycl and 7 other organisations



The Young Communist League of South Africa, together with organisations in the Swaziland Youth Solidarity Action, including the ANCYL, COSAS, SASCO, COSATU, SASPU and the YCS, are angered by the action taken by the Swaziland monarchy to arrest 15 people associated with the Swaziland Youth Congress (Swayoco) and the Peoples United Democratic Movement (Pudemo).

The 15 includes senior leaders of PUDEMO, including its Secretary General Bonginkhosi 'IB' Dlamini, who together with the other 14 appeared in the various courts on Monday and Tuesday this week in Swaziland on charges of High Treason or alternatively 'attempted murder'.

Given the manner in which the 'IB' Dlamini and 14 others were treated during their court appearance, and the desperation on the part of the Swaziland regime, there is no possibility of them getting a fair trial. The law in Swaziland does not guarantee rights for such detainees.

The other unfortunate factor is that the judges are not appointed by an independent judicial council or authority, but by King Mswati. The whole judicial system is centralised and under the control of King Mswati, with relatives occupying positions of Directorate of Public

Prosecutions and Attorney General's Office.

The state allege that the charges arise from a string of bombings that started in October last year and were mainly in the capital city and other areas in Swaziland that were seen as representing the regime's oppressive nature.

Both Pudemo, in the person of 'IB' Dlamini, and Swayoco, joined the nation in condemning the bombings and called for constructive and peaceful engagement and resistance with and against the regime.

We have been in contact with both Pudemo and Swayoco, and have learned that 'IB' Dlamini and 14 others have been tortured upon arrest and are currently jailed in the Swaziland prisons.

The arbitrary arrests and torture represents for us a sense of desperation on the part of King Mswati, who has continuously run the country as his own private community, with a private army, private police and courts without due consideration of the peoples will.

We also see the arrest as a tool to silence dissent and direct opposition towards the dictatorship of Mswati, and this may not come to an end as long as Pudemo and Swayoco remain consistent in highlighting the oppressive and barbaric nature that the King has conducted himself.

We note that since the submission of our memorandum of demands, there has not, expectedly, been a response from the Swaziland monarchy and thus the lack of commitment on the part of the regime to transform.

# We will, together with Swayoco and various youth organisations increase actions both inside Swaziland and in here to highlight the human rights abuse, poverty, socio-economic and political exclusions and lack of transformation for the Swazi people.

# We will blockade all border posts into Swaziland as a means to impact on the economic situation in that country. We will be requesting a meeting with the Secretary General of the African National Congress and that of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to lobby them on the role that South Africa should play in halting Mswati's dictatorship.

# We will be openly lobbying youth organisations in the region and internationally, the South African government and the SADC countries for smart sanctions against Mswati.

# We are concerned of the silence by the international community on the struggle of the people of Swaziland, and call for collective international action against the heinous crimes against the Swazi people perpetrated by King Mswati.

# We will in the month of February

hold pickets and marches to the Swaziland high Commissions, Consulates and Embassy to demand for the unconditional release of 'IB' Dlamini and 12 others.

# We also reiterate our initial demands for the release of other political prisoners, the unbanning of Pudemo and Swayoco, the unbanning of certain South Africans who are prohibited from visiting Swaziland and the unbanning of many Swazi's who have been exiled to South Africa, Sweden and other countries.

We are aware that the Swaziland regime has banned some senior YCL members, including the National Organiser of the YCL, from that country, this we believe, is also meant to silence us. We will never succumb!

The names of the other 12 comrades arrested are standing trial: Mduduzi Mamba of Siphofaneni, Themba Mabuza of Mbebebeleni, Vusi Shongwe of Sidzakeni, Goodwill Du-Pont of Matsetsa, Sicelo Mkhonta of Matsetsa, Kenneth Mkhonta of Nkwadini, Mfanawenkhozi Mntshali of Gobhola, Siphosile Jeje of Mshikishikini, Mfanufikile Nkambule of Nkwadini, Robert Nzima of Makholokholo, Mduduzi Dlamini of Mhlosheni, Siphosile Hlophe of Gobhola, Mpandlana Shongwe

## JOIN THE ANTI-MSWATI CAMPAIGN

By George Raphaela

The Young Communist League has learned with sadness that the situation in Swaziland is getting worse daily. We have campaign activities in solidarity with the young people of Swaziland in condemning the oppression by Mswati.

Since January this year the number of comrades arrested and charged with treason has increased to sixteen with fifteen of these being young people. After the Political School we held jointly with SWAYOCO, more than eight comrades could not return

home for fear of arrest, and are currently exiled in Mpumalanga.

The comrades detained are now being removed from the prison that they were, to the central prison of Swaziland with better conditions.

This move was forced down the Swazi authorities after the United Nations complained about their treatment, with 60 of them in one prison cell using one toilet.

The toilet was blocked and they were forced to leave under that condition for days before they were moved to another prison.

No visits are permitted for the

detainees except for family members.

Their families are being harassed by the state, a wife of one comrade was tortured and died later and other families are facing evictions with no alternative place to stay.

Under Apartheid, activists were forced to be in exile including in Swaziland. They got support from the people in those neighboring countries.

Our country achieved liberation because of the most important role that the youth played. That is why we enjoy basic human rights.

We have joined forces with

COSATU and other Mass Democratic organizations and will be intensifying action on the Swaziland government.

On the 7th of March 2006 the detainees in Swaziland will be appearing in court, we will hold pickets in the Western Cape, Kwazulu Natal, Mpumalanga and Gauteng in support of these comrades.

The National Picket will be in Gauteng on that day.

These blockades will be in April to push the regime to meet our demands.



## EDITORIAL

IN PRAISE OF THE FALLEN HEROES

At the time of going to print, the South African Communist Party and the YCL had lost two of the most dedicated heroes of our time. These are Comrade Judas Trsotetsi, the provincial secretary of the SACP in Mpumalanga, and Comrade Parks Leburu, the former Organising Secretary of the YCL in the Northern Cape.

Both these comrades shared a common course, members and activists of the Party. They were both dedicated to the course of the liberation of the youth in particular and the working class in general.

Their utmost and profound contribution towards the YCL in their respective provinces remain unequalled. Although Comrade Judas was the leader of the Party in Mpumalanga, his dedication, commitment and contribution towards the launch of the provincial structure of the YCL will always be remembered.

At the period towards the launch, Comrade Judas was so impatient with the progress that members of the Interim Leadership Core was making, that he, like a soldier, took matter into his own hands and led the youth towards the establishment of their own structures.

There has always been complaints that he has monopolised the process, that he is not allowing space for the younger one's to lead, but he flippently and laughingly replied that he is merely doing the 'donkey work', and that leadership will be elected at the Congress.

The sweat that comrade Parks shed for the course of launching the YCL was the same. Although he was requested to step aside due to ill-health and give responsibility to other comrades, he insisted that he should also be part of the new collective. Selfless and undeterred, it was as though he felt death knocking on the door, and was rushing against time to ensure that by the time it enters, he will have no regrets of having failed.

We will remember both these comrades in different ways, the hard-work that they put into building the YCL; the loud laughter of Comrade Judas and the quiteness of Comrade Parks; the tempting smiles of both comrades and their love for the revolution; their selflessness and their youth, which were both stolen from us by the unannounced thief.

We will remember these comrades, whose work was not a constitutional compliance, but a course for the revolution. If there is anything we can do in memory of all these comrades, is not to shed tear, but to pick up the baton and soldier on. They have done their bit, and lets plant a smile in their face by completing it...

Thus, in thier case, Death be not Proud!



## Addressing Challenges facing Youth

*This will mean focus on the 10 Youth Demands for 2015 as a consolidation of the Campaigns that we have initiated. There has been general weaknesses in lower structures in trying to implement the campaigns of the organisation, the understanding of this task as primary is important, and the realisation of the goals that we have set upon us makes this more important*

# Our New Year's Resolution- DEFIANCE

*What are you doing this year? Intending to open a Bank Account? Form a Youth Co-operative? Register with a University or FET College? Get a Job? Well, good idea. But you see the you may be unable to do all of these things because there are 30% more young people on the Mzantshi Account que; 60% young people unemployed, 17% more knocking on the NSFAS door looking for financial Aids and word has it that the Umsobomvu Youth Fund is drying up.*

*The Young Communist League invites you to come and be part of this year's programme-and Defy all of these things.*

*You are unable to go to College or Varsity-Why? Capitalism as an economic system has made education to be a good that should be bought. For us, it is a right. You deserve it. You should be educated.*

*This year, our Programme of Action focuses on Defiance. We are Defying the odds created by capitalism as a failing socio-economic system and we want it replaced by socialism, an economic system for youth and to be build by youth. Below are various elecmnts of our Programme for 2006.*



## Building a Strong YCL for and by youth!

This requires the commitment of our cadres to build strong and massive branches both qualitatively and quantitatively; ensure that the YCL is able to lead the South African youth from all walks of life to contribute towards the development of their own communities; to strengthen the role of the National Office to be able to respond to the challenges of building a strong organisation; to strengthen the capacity of districts and provinces to be able to guide branches and co-ordinate branch work; to replace lack of finances with creative means of survival and to survive in these conditions that we seek to change.

In this regard, Branches of the YCL are called upon to esnure that they do the following:

# Renew Membership and set targets for recruitment of new members, set-up a

Branch Recruitment Team headed by the Branch Deputy Secretary.

# Hold Annual General Meetings. § H o l d Branch General Meetings at least once a Month.

# Hold Branch Executive Committee Meetings at least once in two weeks.

# Focus on recruitment of young women through campaigns relevant to their local needs and interests.

# Gender education of YCL local leaders and structures.

# Taking up actively local campaigns on young women's needs.

# Use 8 March, 16 June, 9 August, 16 Days of Activism Against Violence Against Women, and World AIDS Day to recruit young women.

# Local YCL school for its young women members.



## Operation Khula: Target 100 000

Our Membership Target for this year is 100 000. The figure is not only realisable, but can also be exceeded. The figure will also be used as a mobilisation tool.

**What this target means and who is our target.**

100 000 members on the 31st December 2006 seems to be an unrealistic target especially because we are on our second year of existence. The breakdown for structures is as follows

# Provinces: 1010  
# Districts: 315  
# Branch: 39

This are the targets for each month and can be met.

The young people who should be the bedtock of the YCL are located in:

# Workplaces;  
# Schools and Universities;  
# Young women;  
# Townships; and  
# Rural areas.

This young people may

have problems varying from: # Unemployment;  
# Problems of access to learning institutions;  
# HIV/AIDS;  
# Food and Basic Services;  
# Access to finance for co-ops and SMME's;  
We therefore have the challenge of attracting these youth into our organisation by projecting ours as an organisation that represents them and mobilise them to reverse all these problems.

Our vision is socialism, and we are fighting against capitalism. We need to ensure that this is imbued into the minds of youth, especially those that join our ranks. We will not reach our target and keep it or grow it if we do not instil hope (and not fears) into the hearts of our youth in the face of all of these problems.

**Our Strategy for recruitment.**

Our strategy for recruitment

is based on four pillars:

# Ongoing Campaigns on issues that affects our targeted groups;

# Ongoing organisational activities to keep members active;

# Cultural, Sports and recreational activities to keep members and recruit new ones; and

# Positive public profile of the organisation.

**Activities to ensure that we realise our target.**

# All branches must have a Recruitment Team which meets on a daily basis.

# All districts and provinces should have Rectuitment Teams meeting monthly.

#The League Building Commission should meet quarterly.

The OP-KHULA will be launched in the Free State on the 19 March 2006.

## MOVIE REVIEW:

# Will Tsotsi Win the Oscars

Yesterday it was Yesterday, today it is Tsotsi. What has been hailed as another first-class movie from Mzantsi may be announced as the winner of an Oscar in its category. Tsotsi has been nominated in the Best Foreign Language movie.

Unlike Yesterday, Tsotsi is filled with action, and its leading stars are new in the block.

Critics have hailed this as its strong point, rather than its poor script.

The resort to crime as a solution struggles to come out from the movie.

Although it boosts Zola (of Yizo Yizo fame) Rapulana Seiphemo (Generations) and Nambitha Mpulwana (Interrogation Room), the movie also introduces new talent in Presley Cheweneyagae and Terry Pheto whose prowesses were somewhat suppressed by the script.

The script is basically unrealistic, short of ideas, straightforward and lacked research. If the producers looked to make the actors come out real, they should have gone to Zola, Mamelodi, Soshanguve, Gugulethu or Seshego so as to get the gist of a Tsotsi.

Tsotsi's (the character) enunciation of some of the taal was a bit poor and needed a lot of improvement.

It is based on a false notion that tsotsis speak Zulu, whilst Tsotsi taal is a mixture of languages.

On the upside, the movie is full of humour and shows that crime does not pay.

It is full of humour, and is shot in the heart of South African poverty and opulence. It shows the widening gap between the rich and the poor.

If Tsotsi makes it, the script will have nothing to do with it. It will be the good actors who brought life to the words. This will undoubtedly make our country proud.

You go crew!

## CD REVIEW

# Freshly ground freshens the music ground.

Freshly Ground are a bomb. From the first track their new album keeps you on the dance floor. Whether you are taking a long trip from Durban to Jozi, or taking a soothing bath, this album will help you journey through any moment. Slow jams, fast disco jams, love songs and you know what. This seven member group, comprised of the freshest youth talent the country can have, made up for the one track blast album that Malaika gave the awaiting youth for the festive season.

The lead signer, Zolani Mahola, is one multi-talented young artist whose voice leads you to quietly sleep whilst deeply listening to its echo in your dreams. It is a voice worth listening to. It punches out in title track, track three and six. Track seven (DOO BE DOO) blessed our red Christmas dance-floors, whilst numbers eight and nine are the smooth ones to keep you hooked.

What makes Freshly Ground the best is their synergy and skill. All that red-kulxa wants to say to you boys and girls is that you must give us your second best. This album will keep us hooked for some time, so, like wine-makers, take your time. We know, with such talent, it will be worth the wait.

# WIN WIN WIN

READERS OF Y-REDS CAN WIN THEMSELVES A CD OF FRESHLY GROUND AND A T-SHIRT. ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS WRITE TO US AND TELL US WHY YOUR YCL BRANCH IS THE BEST AMONGST THE MANY. THE WINNING ESSAY WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE NEXT EDITION OF Y-REDS. ESSAY MUST INCLUDE THE CONTACT NUMBERS OF THE APPLICANTS. THE CLOSING DATE FOR THIS COMPETITION IS 28 FEBRUARY.

# Political task of Revolutionary YCL Today

BY NTOKOZO RADEBE NGOMA

It is the Youth that will carry the actual task of creating a socialist society. The same generation that has been brought up in capitalist society can destroy its foundation.

The Youth must dedicate themselves to the cause of the working class revolution, hence extreme inequality, poverty, homeless and hunger are characterizing the South African Society.

The YCL should believe that all the problems that our country is faced with are fundamentally due to the exploitation and immorality of capitalism. In order to overcome this we must fully recognize the HISTORICAL AND DIALECTICAL MATERIALISM first. We must fully recognize the importance and the centrality of philosophy.

We will learn from the material that is left us by the buguosis, again we can build the approach to socialism only on the basis of totality of knowledge, and the outlook of materialism globally and not locally only. But such a definition of learning of socialism would be too crude and inadequate if the learning is solely in assimilation with what is written in big books by different communist thinkers with different versions, this would do us harm.

With out work and without struggle

book knowledge that is obtained from communist authors shall be absolutely worthless, because it separates theory and practice. Millions of youth who call themselves communists after learning Marxism-Leninism in this way would only greatly prejudice the cause of socialism.

Our generation of workers and poor young people is not much educated hence it has drilled in the interest of the bourgeoisie. They were trained in such a way that they should be useful servants of the bourgeoisie.

In a capitalist society there are two principal contradictory classes which are the bourgeoisie and the working class, the capitalist control the means of production and use it to maximize its profit. Profit cannot be generated without class exploitation, thus the working class is compelled to sell their labour power to the bourgeoisie because they need to survive.

Our role is to ensure political and organic linkage between SACP and YCL. We need to ensure that that these two are linked with the overall struggle for socialism, this is a key challenge that is confronting the YCL and the SACP as vanguards of the working class and all its strata.

It is the task of today's generation to overthrow the bourgeoisie and criticize its tendency day in and day out. We need to develop hatred of the bour-

geoisie among masses of Youth in this country, and foster class-consciousness in order to unite all the progressive Youth formations.

We must train ourselves now to be communists, all YCL members should organize in practical activities through learning, organizing, uniting and fighting. Then we will be able to transform our society to that one of socialism. Members of the YCL need to understand this question (WHAT DOES THIS CLASS STRUGGLE CONSIST IN) it consists overthrowing the capitalist and abolish the bourgeoisie class.

The class struggle must continue, hence it is a class struggle of the proletariat that will advance our struggle to socialism. How do we accomplish all these tasks? There is a system called (DICTATORSHIP OF THE PROLETARIAT) this system is to prevent the return of the exploiters.

YCL members need to be vigilant in economic exploitation that is being defended and facilitated through culture, religion, sports, technology and ideologically. All these are playing an important role in legitimizing and perpetuating exploitation and class domination, furthermore, our task in the working class struggle should be very much clear, through the proletarian revolution we will need the state power in order to transform and re

organize society.

Our advantage in South Africa is that of unionism that places the working class at the forefront of the struggle for socialism and fighting for gender equity, social security and national health system. It is therefore critical for the YCL to build a working class political party in order to articulate the interests of the working class in our society. YCL has to have a focus on engaging these issues as prerequisite to articulating and ensuring a socialist hegemony among young people. Our generation is facing the most acute form of capitalism, neo-liberalism this has opted to eliminate job security, privatize basic service, commodity recreation and sports & cultural amenity then rampant individualism.

We cannot achieve a socialist society without resolving the national question, and therefore the role of the YCL in NDR is principled and necessary. However it is critical to note that the solution of the national question in itself does not resolve class contradictions. To prevent the restoration of the rule of the capitalist, we must not allow profiteering; we must allow individuals to enrich themselves at the expense of the rest. Then the working class must unite its strata and form mass based revolutionary party. This is a principal feature of the fundamental tasks of YCL in South Africa.



# RED IS THE COLOUR OF OUR FLAG

**This is an edited version on the reply by David Masondo to a widely publicised article written by Mazibuko Jara. You can read the full version of Masondo's paper on [www.ycl.org.za](http://www.ycl.org.za).**



## EVERYONE HAS AN AGENDA:

“Large sections of media have also taken positions on the ANC presidential succession debate and found the Deputy President guilty on the basis of their preferred choices.”

What is the Colour of our Flag? Red or JZ? A critique of the SACP approach on the JZ matter', which eventually leaked to the media. The paper raises a number of critical conjectural, theoretical, strategic and tactical issues facing the working class, and the SACP in particular. Unfortunately MJ gives a report back that significantly distorts the positions of the SACP and the YCL. MJ advises the SACP not to undermine 'the importance of bourgeoisie institutions' and must respect the 'rule of law'.

As one reads the paper, it is not clear whether MJ is implicitly arguing against JZ becoming the ANC President, or supports the principle of innocent until proven guilty, but not as it relates to JZ because he is a 'former communist', 'traditionalist' and anti-intellectual.

A defence of the principle of innocent until proven guilty and whether this applies only to communists is distinct from the ANC presidential campaign, which is the role responsibility of the ANC membership. But in MJ's paper both are conflated and the ANC presidential campaign is also attributed to the SACP and the YCL.

The current crisis, personified in JZ, is a cumulative experience of the last ten years, which must be located within class struggle and class formation underway, and how the post- (neo)-colonial state is used to deal with the working class, revolutionary dissent, different fractions of capital, leadership that may be sympathetic (real or perceived) to the working class, and how the state cherry-picks on corruption or selectively deals with corruption, including the arms deal.

In this process of class struggle and formation, there are intra-class and inter-class contradictions, which produce particular forms of alliance, spontaneity, consciousness and organization that we may (dis)like.

The crisis was also accompanied by international and local white monopoly capital's attempts to build a black bourgeoisie to serve as a buffer between the working class and the white monopoly capital. The combination of the structural crisis and class struggle between the working class and the bourgeoisie, and the intra-class amongst the black bourgeoisie as well as the inter-class struggle between black and white bourgeoisies manifested itself in the so-called JZ saga. This has also expressed itself

through the working class spontaneity and capital intra-warfare.

The YCL and the SACP defended JZ on the basis of the principle of innocent until proven guilty. As the YCL and SACP, we did not do so because he (JZ) is a civilising modernist or a traditionalist or a sangoma, as our 'rational' civilising modernist MJ argues. We did not defend the Deputy President because he is left or right as MJ and co. have alleged. We are correctly asked by MJ to defend these democratic rights which are not inherently bourgeoisie, but have been appropriated to suit the bourgeoisie interests.

A majority of them like MJ, have hypocritically invoked the respect for the rule of law as and when we defend JZ on the very basis principle of the 'rule of law', which is innocent until proven guilty. By and large, MJ and company have never spoken against the abuse of state institutions directed at the ANC Deputy President. Why is MJ and co. not questioning these double standards as the defenders of the 'rule of law'? How MJ and co. justifies these inconsistencies? There is no answer in MJ's paper.

MJ argues that 'it is questionable whether the defense of JZ represents a best strategy and tactics through which to conduct a political and class struggle against such a project'. Yes, if this class project abuses state power and finds people guilty before proven innocent, then this is one of the best tactics to deal with it.

MJ asks 'who loses most when there is no rule of law under capitalism...' In answering this question, MJ reveals his reified and fetish conception of the law. We are advised and cautioned that if the rule of law collapses then the working class will suffer. We are told that whenever there is a collapse of the rule of law the left forces suffer as if when the Tsarist or Apartheid rule of law collapsed, the working class suffered. We are referred to Congo and told that the collapse of the rule of law led to the suffering of the working class, as if the law just mysteriously collapsed outside the social class struggles and level of class organization and mobilization. The issue is: laws within each social formation reflect class power relations between classes. If the balance of forces significantly changes in favour of the bourgeoisie, the working class suffers, and the law will reflect the balance of power in

society. Presence and absence of particular regimes of laws reflect balance of class power. The issue of power relations is thrown out of the window in MJ's analysis.

Even if the presidential candidate is not JZ, would MJ and co. agree that the state should be used to settle presidential succession debate in the ANC as it is the case right now, including finding someone guilty before proven innocent?

The dominant issue is about presidential succession in the ANC. Large sections of media have also taken positions on the ANC presidential succession debate and found the Deputy President guilty on the basis of their preferred choices. We repeat: the agenda is about presidential succession in the ANC. MJ, like certain sections of our society, twist fact and tell lies that comrade Jacob Zuma is the ANC Presidential candidate of the SACP, COSATU and the YCL.

ANC leadership issues are a matter of the ANC members, and they will only nominate or elect leadership as members of the ANC. We are told that the SACP has squandered 'political capital' because we defended the principle of innocent until proven guilty. MJ as usual mimics the petty bourgeoisie's usage of concepts. Capital is inherently political because the process to reproduce capital is political since there cannot be capital accumulation without control of labor given the inherent antagonistic between labour and capital. Now, how can the SACP possess capital? Does this imply the SACP is capitalist?

Let's put aside MJ's conceptual confusion and deal with the lies that he tells about the SACP and the YCL. JZ may not be that individual as MJ would argue, but MJ essentialises JZ as if he is a static human object that is not subject to change like any other human being. MJ's lies are also based on fallacious logic.

MJ suggests that the SACP should retreat from supporting the principle of innocent until proven guilty. MJ counterposes the campaigns of the Party against the defence of the principle of innocent until proven guilty. The SACP must continue to root itself amongst and within the working class through campaigns. The SACP should combine all these spontaneous actions and the defence of a principle until proven guilty as it applies to anyone including JZ.



# G O G E T T H E V O T E

## OUR APPROACH TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS

What makes young people to vote or not to vote? What are we going to do as the YCL in this regard? The September National Committee decided that our key objective in the local government election campaign is to ensure an overwhelming victory for the ANC in all provinces including KwaZulu Natal and the Western Cape province. We also stated that we want to ensure that as many young people, who are registered voters, vote for the ANC. We also want to reach out to all sections of young people on the ANC Elections Manifesto with a clear YCL message. We also want to use the elections campaign to introduce, popularise and build the YCL where young people live, work and study. We also raised points about youth representation in election structures and lists.

### What should be our political message?

It is suggested that the YCL elections message must stand on following legs:

- # Why the YCL calls on all young people in South Africa to vote for the ANC for Quality Jobs, Learnerships for a Better South Africa. The voice of every young person counts. Young people must make their voices heard in the elections. They have clear needs and interests. They want a good future and a better life now, opportunities to realise our talents and aspirations, quality public education, knowledge and skills, no denial of education because they cannot pay, employment and an end to crime, treatment for people living with HIV/AIDS, good health services & other social services, opportunities and facilities for recreation, sports and culture and a caring government which listens to them. Is it going to be possible to raise the internal debate on the SACP and the elections during the election campaign? How do we relate this to the elections message the ANC has to be posed as the only caring political party which can listen to young people and which has a good record in government.
- # Since 1994, the ANC has brought democracy, peace, water and housing for millions, electricity, and hope for a better future. Young people have gained from democracy. There is no more apartheid education. The National Student Financial Aid Scheme supports poor students. There are opportunities for skills training. But there still have many problems. Many young people are still not employed: the capitalist bosses are not investing in jobs, skills training & our education. We face HIV/AIDS, crime, and many other problems. Is the ANC election manifesto addressing youth needs, fears and hopes?
- # The opposition parties are not for the youth. The DA wants to protect apartheid privileges. By calling for privatisation of education, the DA wants to deny us a chance to quality public education. The DA calls for closing down of SETAs (agencies for education and skills training). Other opposition parties promise things they can never be in a position to achieve.
- # For the ANC manifesto to be effective, we must take part in national life. For the ANC to work with and for youth, young people must be organised.
- # During and after the elections, young people must build their power and voice in government, in the economy and where they live, work and study. After the elections, capitalists will limit our life opportunities. Capitalism will frustrate young hopes and needs. Capitalism will still deny us jobs, free education and skills training. This is because capitalism means the control of the economy by a few fat cats who pay our parents starvation wages. Young people can challenge capitalism. For this, young people must be organised politically in the YCL, organisations for unemployed youth, students, in community based organisations where they stay, in exciting campaigns for education, employment & our other needs, in the economy, in co-operatives and in COSATU trade unions. Even their cultural and social lives must be part of the anti-capitalist struggle. The YCL is the political home to organise young people in this fashion.

Using this framework and message, the elections campaign can be used creatively to strengthen our branch structures and implement our campaigns in local areas. After the elections, we must pay attention to how young people can direct their energy to the political process.

### Our activities

#### Red Youth Month - February

- # 1 week before the Siyanqoba rallies or related to the Party's Red Day of Election Mobilisation
- # Distribution of YCL elections message (leaflets and posters)
- # YCL-convened Young People's Forums - In the Young People's Forums, the YCL can also invite the Youth Commissions, Umsobomvu, government departments, etc. for them to provide information to young people on their services.

- # YCL stalls
- # Young Workers' Forums - The YCL must target the sectors of the economy where young workers are. This differs from province to province. The YCL must also pay some focus on child and young workers in farms and other vulnerable workers. Visits to such workplaces and lunch meetings organised together with COSATU where possible are critical.
- # YCL "door-to-door" work in residential areas targeting young people as part of the KYNC
- # Media offensive on community radio, the SABC, newspapers, etc.
- # Where - townships, informal settlements, rural areas, inner cities and educational institutions
- # National and Provincial Launch Activities (rallies? Dates? Where?)
- # PYA activities and meetings
- # Youth Rock the Vote Party - where? When?
- # YCL participation in preparations for Siyanqoba rallies
- # Where - Afrikaans tertiary institutions (UOFS, Stellenbosch, Pretoria, RAU, Pretoria technikon, Potchefstroom) and other strategic places where possible
- # YCL participation in preparations for Siyanqoba rallies
- # The NC must constitute an ad-hoc committee that will look at elections process, to be led by the National Secretary.
- # All provinces are supposed to have developed and submitted Plans of Action, before end of November 2005.

### Our Media Offensive

#### Y-REDS

- Campus based branches must work to insert this newsletter into student newspapers particular during the opening weeks in January and February.
- # Unlike the YCL elections leaflet, Y-REDS must be distributed strategically to other sections of youth (unemployed youth, youth in NGOs, young workers, etc.)
- # For the January to March 1 editions, YCL will focus on the elections campaign and relevant parts of the 2006 POA.
- # Press Statements
- # The YCL elections message and Y-REDS will contain our message to the media.
- # The YCL nationally will issue at least three press statements per week from 15 March.
- # Provinces must issue at least 1 press statement per week from 15 March. Provinces must co-ordinate with the National Office in this regard.
- # These statements must announce our activities and also respond to public issues on elections and other developments thus profiling a YCL voice.
- # These statements must be followed up with SABC and community-based radio stations to ensure that they are covered in news bulletins and that the YCL takes part in interviews and other elections programmes in these stations. Y-FM, other commercial radio stations and campus-based radio stations also need strategic targeting. YCL structures must also deploy comrades to phone into radio phone-in programmes and talk-shows.
- # Coordinated work must be done to ensure that 40-50% of these statements are covered in newspapers as news stories.
- # Articles and letters
- # The YCL must ensure that at least 20 opinion/analysis pieces are published in the major national daily and weekend newspapers. Provinces must also reproduce the same articles for local daily and weekend newspapers.
- # At least 50 letters must be written by YCL structures to the provincial and local media between 15 March and 14 April. The YCL nationally must also write letters. These letters must respond to developments in the elections campaign based on our elections message.

### Media coordination

- # The YCL national office will send to provinces a media database.
- # Each province must appoint a Media Coordinator and 2-3 person media task-team which works closely with the relevant structures in the Party at all levels.

#### YCL Information and Publicity.

- # elections leaflet and poster
- # YCL website
- # The National office will provide material for a YCL elections pack which provinces, districts and branches must use. It will contain the YCL membership form, summary of the ANC Elections Manifesto, and Party & YCL elections leaflets.
- # Between 500 and 1000 YCL elections t-shirts will be produced for use by YCL activists in the election campaign. Provinces will be requested to purchase these at cost price to cover costs but must distribute these for free to activists. If provinces need to recover their costs, they must confirm their proposed approaches with the National Office.